



“In-Season” Hurricane Preparedness Review

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Mission Statement

To protect the lives and property of Virginia’s citizens from emergencies and disasters by coordinating the state’s emergency preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery efforts.

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Purpose of In-Season Review

- Discussed hurricane preparedness and response issues.
 - Situational Awareness/Local-State Coordination
 - Evacuation
 - Sheltering
 - Citizens Needing Assistance
 - Public Information
- Identified recommendations to existing plans.
- Identified strategic challenges that require long-term solutions.



Methods

- Working Groups
 - Situational Awareness/Local-State Coordination
 - Evacuation
 - Sheltering
 - Citizens Needing Assistance
 - Public Information
- 3rd Party Analysis
 - Witt O'Brien's
- Validation Exercise on August 5.
- Report to Governor on August 15.



In-Season Review Activities

- Cabinet exercise – May 12
- VDEM, VDOT, VSP staff, and local SMEs
 - Lane Reversal Working Group
 - Hurricane Evacuation Planning Group
 - Conference calls
 - HRPDC
- FEMA Technical Assistance
- VERTEX – June 25-26
- Governor's Roundtable – July 1
- Roundtable Debrief – July 9



In-Season Review Activities

- REMTAC meeting on July 22.
- Ready Hampton Roads subcommittee meeting on July 24.
- Witt O'Brien's interviews on July 28-31.
- Region 1 focus group on July 30.
- In-Season Review Briefing with VEMA on August 4.
- In-Season Review validation exercise on August 5.
- Governors announcement September 4.



Key Findings

- Situational Awareness & State-Local Coordination:
 - standardization of conference calls
 - new web tools for information exchange
 - deployment of liaison officers to local EOCs
 - use a multi-agency coordination center



Key Findings

■ Evacuation:

- adjusting hurricane evacuation decision-making timeline
- lane reversal should remain a tool of last resort
- emphasis placed on evacuation of citizens from highly vulnerable areas
- traffic management plans
- gas station resiliency
- improve evacuation routes



Key Findings

■ Sheltering

- shelter identification and assessment
- shelter facility enhancements
- increase shelter capacity and staffing



Key Findings

- Citizens Needing Assistance
 - FEMA Technical Assistance for Transportation
 - Technology and Communication
 - Engage Stakeholders via Advisory Boards



Key Findings

■ Public Information

- Ready Hampton Roads and Virtual Joint Information Center
- Outreach Campaign, Disability Information & Alert Network, Training and Exercise
- Social Media



Evacuation/I-64 Lane Reversal

- Initiate deployment of state resources for evacuation activities
 - -96 hours

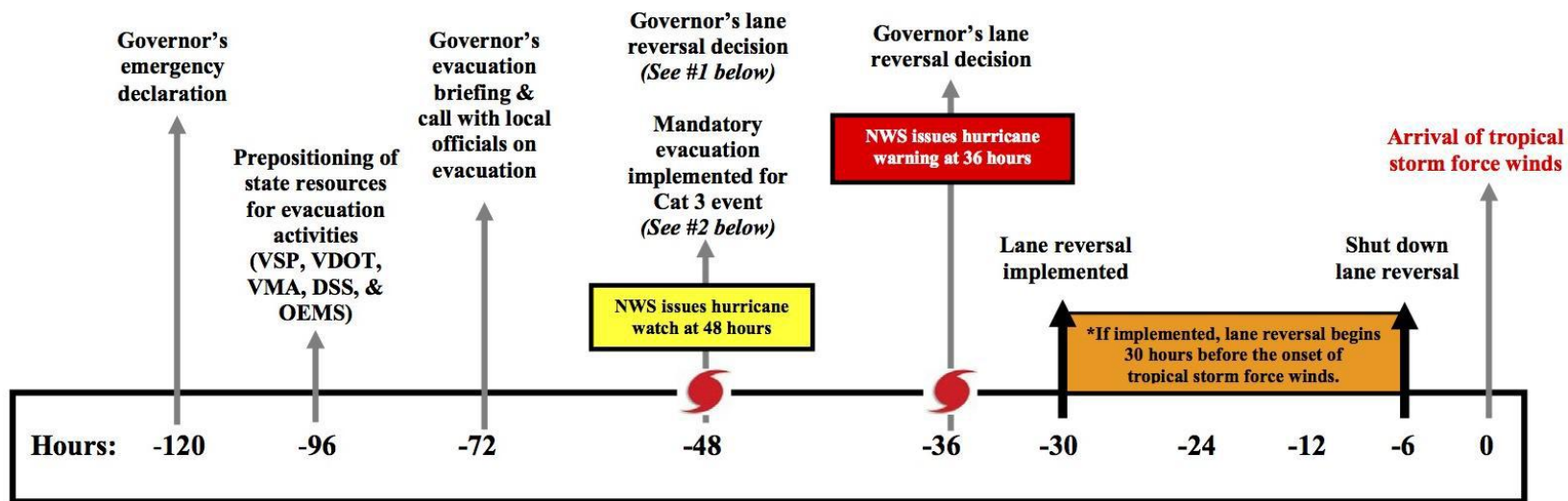
- First call by the governor with chief local elected officials
 - -72 hours, previously -48

- Evacuation Decision for CAT 3 Hurricane
 - -48 hours, previously -38 hours



Evacuation/I-64 Lane Reversal

Commonwealth of Virginia Hurricane Evacuation/Lane Reversal Timeline



Timeline shows maximum times and trigger points for Category 1-3 hurricanes. The timeline may vary depending on the storm.

#1 – State resources move from pre-staging areas to duty post with lane reversal decision.

#2 – Evacuation implementation point for Southside Hampton Roads, with or without lane reversal decision. (*Bowers Hill Evacuation Traffic*)

Updated August 15, 2014



Progress

- Enhanced video teleconferencing capabilities
- Real-time Evacuation Planning Model
- Evacuation Zones
- Norfolk pilots a traffic management project
- Coordination & sharing with Region 1
- State Homeland Security Grant extension
- DHS National Protection and Programs Directorate study of critical infrastructure
- VERTEX



Next Steps

- Access and Functional Needs Advisory Panel
- Hire Sheltering Coordinator
- Utilize Hurricane Evacuation Coordination Committee (In-Season Review serves as Strategic Plan)



“This review demonstrates that we have many strengths when it comes to hurricane preparedness, but also a number of challenges that we must meet head on.

-Governor McAuliffe